

Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Water Conservation Program for Business



The City of Fresno's Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Water Conservation Program provides local businesses with information on improved water use efficiency technologies to develop and implement water use efficiency.

Commercial: Water users that provide or distribute a product or a service, such as hotels, restaurants, and office buildings.

Industrial: Any water users that are primarily manufacturers or processors of materials.

Institutional: Any water-using establishments dedicated to public service. This includes schools, courts, churches, hospitals and government facilities.



Why Should Your Business Conserve Water?

Commercial, Industrial and Institutional customers account for over 10% of water demand in the City of Fresno's service area. Efficient water use in your daily operation is important to your business and to Fresno.

Use water wisely and reduce business expenses, help prevent water shortages and maximize our limited water supplies. In most cases, water efficiency is cost effective and represents significant annual water, energy and wastewater savings.

Many businesses can substantially reduce their water use but may lack information to quantify potential costs savings. A water conservation representative can help you learn about water conservation opportunities specific to your site. Potential water savings may range anywhere from 5 to 50%!

How Will Your Company Benefit?

- **Lower Water Bills** - Improved water efficiency reduces charges for water.
- **Lower Sewer Charges** - The less water used, the less wastewater discharged.
- **Reduced Energy Costs** - Using less heated water and steam can reduce your energy cost.
- **Reduced cost for wastewater discharges** - Reduced discharges help keep wastewater fees low and postpone the need for larger facilities.
- **Conserving Water** - Water efficiency promotes a positive company image.

Services for City Business Customers

Business-Friendly Program

Fresno's water system serves a diverse, multi-faceted business community. The Water Conservation Program for Business has been developed to respond to these challenges. The City offers commercial, industrial, and industrial customers an opportunity to evaluate their current water use to promote greater efficiency.

Water efficiency survey and analysis

Customers can take advantage of the complimentary survey and analysis provided by a qualified water conservation representative. Indoor and outdoor water use for the site is evaluated and the customer is provided with recommendations for water conservation measures appropriate for the site.

Free water efficient devices

Recommendations to improve water use efficiency in restrooms, showers and break areas are also provided. To assist you, free water conserving faucet aerators and shower heads are provided during the survey.

Who is Eligible?

A free water efficiency analysis is available to all commercial, industrial and institutional customers who pay a water bill to the City. No matter what the size or type of your company, it's smart business to take advantage of the City of Fresno's free water conservation services.

Where Can You Save Water?

An important step to saving water in your business is awareness

Are you aware of the amount of water your business uses? How much is your water bill each month? Have you compared your water use to others in your industry?

Another important step is to remind users to conserve. Employee awareness is one of the most cost effective and sustainable methods of saving water in the workplace. Ask employee to submit their ideas. Put someone in charge of water and energy conservation for your operations.

Quick Tips for Saving Water

- Fix leaks – Small leaks add up dollars wasted. Worn toilet flappers and leaking faucets are common culprits.
- Use water-saving faucets, showerheads, toilets and urinals to save water
- Install insulation blankets on water heaters
- Shut off water to unused areas
- Use automatic shut off valves for equipment that is not in operation
- Consider water use when purchasing or replacing equipment
- Mop instead of washing, sweep instead of mopping
- Use a high-pressure nozzle when a hose is necessary
- Consider evaporative cooling for some locations
- Plan to use water-wise landscaping and irrigation to save water

More Water Saving Ideas for Business

Building Operations

- ☐ Read water meters regularly to track potential leaks
- ☐ Examine ways to modify processes
- ☐ Install self-closing, air-cooled water fountains
- ☐ Install low-flush and urinals

Cooling and Heating

- ☐ Cooling systems and towers
 - ☐ Eliminate once through cooling
 - ☐ Install a re-circulating system
 - ☐ Reuse blowdown for irrigation
 - ☐ Reuse treated water for makeup
 - ☐ Use air-cooling where possible
 - ☐ Consider evaporative cooling
 - ☐ Consider hybrid cooling towers
 - ☐ Consider side stream filtration or pulse power treatment
- ☐ Boilers and heaters
 - ☐ Minimize blowdown
 - ☐ Routinely check steam traps
 - ☐ Reuse condensate and blowdown

Process Use

- ☐ Recycle and reuse water
- ☐ Utilize closed-loop systems
- ☐ Eliminate once-through cooling
- ☐ Use air-cooled systems
- ☐ Alter process filtering to maximize product recovery
- ☐ Separate water process streams

Laundries

- ☐ Wash full loads only
- ☐ Recycle final rinse water for pre-wash
- ☐ Install sub-meters to track potential leaks
- ☐ Recover steam condensate and/or vented flash steam

Pools and Spas

- ☐ Cover pools when not in use
- ☐ Lower the temperature when not in use
- ☐ Keep filters clean to reduce backwash
- ☐ Adjust pool levels to minimize splash

Food Service

- ☐ Thaw food in refrigerator or microwave
- ☐ Provide water only on request
- ☐ Scrape dishes instead of rinsing
- ☐ Install high-pressure, low-volume spray washers
- ☐ Wash full loads only
- ☐ Reuse final rinse water for prewash or garbage disposal
- ☐ Install automatic shut-off valves
- ☐ Choose water efficient equipment
- ☐ Install sensor dishwashers
- ☐ Use air-cooled or flake ice machines
- ☐ Install separate meters for larger operations

Vehicle Washing

- ☐ Wash vehicles only when needed
- ☐ Adjust solenoids, valves, nozzles, and equipment to minimize water use
- ☐ Use high-pressure washes
- ☐ Inspect and replace worn jets and parts
- ☐ Install water recycling equipment

X-ray Processing/Labs

- ☐ Equip x-ray processors with shut-off valves
- ☐ Reduce the flow rate to the processors
- ☐ Eliminate continuous water streams for aspiration of liquids or other purposes
- ☐ Eliminate single-pass cooling of instrument analyzers
- ☐ Use sterilizers which use re-circulating cooling water
- ☐ Install silver recovery systems
- ☐ Install flow restrictors on water-ring vacuum pumps or replace with oil-ring pumps

Ask us about rebates and our free landscape consultation program.

How to Get Started!

Call 621-5480

For Free Assistance

Ask about a Water Efficiency Analysis

A free water efficiency analysis is tailored to the size and nature of your business. The survey helps identify where and how much water is being used at your business facility. It includes an evaluation of current water use at the site and a water consumption history.

See the Benefits

Once the survey is completed, a report will be prepared that identifies water-saving measures appropriate for your facility. The report will contain recommendations for potential water saving measures such as the installation of water-saving hardware, retrofitting equipment, and system modifications. It also includes a calculation of the costs and potential benefits of installing these water efficiency measures.

The implementation of recommended measures is voluntary. Survey results and information regarding facility operation provided to the Conservation Program are confidential.

City of Fresno Water Conservation Program

Call (559) 621-5480

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CONSERVE WATER

...It's Smart Business

